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Title: Flood situation in Assam.

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR (DIBRUGARH): Thank you, Madam. I want to draw the attention of the Central Government, through you, about the prevailing devastating flood situation in Assam. In this flood, hundred thousand hectares of paddy land in the State are inundated. Several hundred hectares of land have been eroded. Many people have lost their houses and many people have lost their lives. Even more than 50 per cent of the Kaziranga National Park is inundated in this flood and many wild animals died.

Due to the flood, in the last decade Assam has lost more than several lakh hectares of the cultivable fertile land and many thousands of acres of tea garden land and roads and buildings were damaged and the damage runs into several thousand crores of rupees.

I request the Central Government to immediately send a team to study the devastating flood situation in Assam and immediately release a fund of Rs. 1,000 crore for providing immediate relief and rehabilitation and erosion control work in Assam.

With the limited resources with the State Government, it is very difficult to control the flood situation and erosion problem of the State. The Central Government must declare it as a national problem and they should immediately take steps so that the fertile land is not lost to the rivers. A special package should be announced to help the people who have lost their household, cultivable land and valuable property due to the flood.

* Not recorded

I request the Central Government to immediately take all steps to formulate short and long term plan to control flood and erosion problem to give relief to the people of Assam.